

**An Analysis of
Ada County
Precinct Boundary Errors
in the Maptitude Mapping Tool**

**Presented to
Idaho Redistricting Commission**

**By
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Dear Commissioners:

I have been working on redistricting maps since May. Initially I was using DRA, through davesredistricting.org and, once it became available, I started using Maptitude. Because DRA is the more user-friendly tool, the maps in this report were done on DRA, but I have confirmed the boundaries are identical in both tools.

I want to advise you of several errors in both tools relating to how precinct boundaries are depicted on the map. Several different areas of the county are using outdated precinct boundaries that have been changed by Ada County since the map file was transmitted to the Census Bureau and released in tools such as DRA and Maptitude.

First, to clarify, there is nothing wrong with the numbers of people counted, and I am not addressing numbers. I am simply alerting you to the fact that the precinct boundary overlay does not put the people into the same precinct boundaries that Ada County Elections uses.

As I understand it, a map that does not split precincts is prioritized over one that does. In the case of Ada County, the tool itself violates this standard by starting with split precincts. A total of 20 precincts are affected—more than 13 percent of Ada precincts.

Furthermore, I understand that the Ada County Clerk has already received the budget to redraw Ada County from scratch and add approximately 50 additional precincts.

Therefore, I would ask that the Commission formally adopt a rule that maps splitting precincts in Ada County be given equal precedence as those that do not split precincts. I also ask that you adopt this early in the process to give notice to those who are actively drawing maps so that they can feel free to disregard current boundaries.

The specifics on the errors in the tool are as follows:

Legislative District 14:	1402, 1403, 1404, 1406, 1413, and 1414 are improperly drawn 1420 and 1421 are missing 1411 has a boundary that is splitting lots
Legislative District 15:	1516 is missing
Legislative District 16:	No differences
Legislative District 17:	No differences
Legislative District 18:	1803, 1804, 1817 and 1818 are improperly drawn
Legislative District 19:	No differences
Legislative District 20:	2001, 2008, and 2009 are improperly drawn 2014 and 2015 are missing
Legislative District 21:	2106 is improperly drawn, 2117 is missing
Legislative District 22:	No differences

A more detailed description and Ada County Elections Legislative District Maps are below.

Legislative District 14

Legislative District 14 combined two precincts into one, split another into two, and split another two into four precincts.

Precincts 1402 and 1403 were combined into a single precinct, 1403.

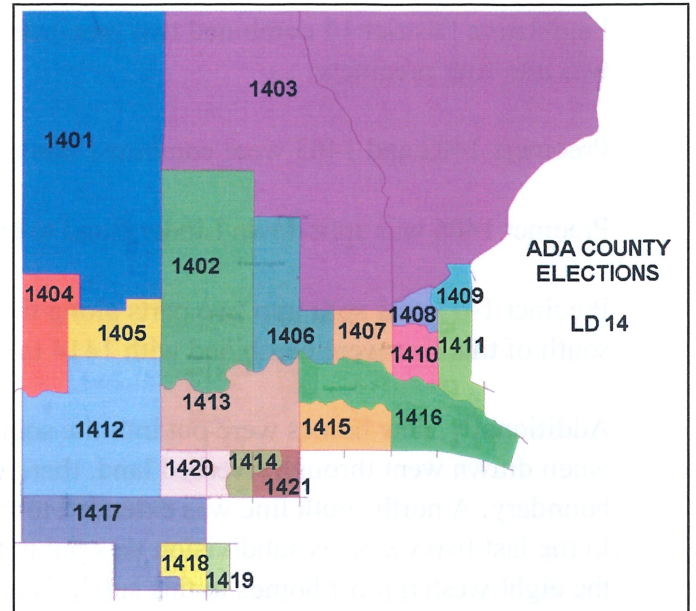
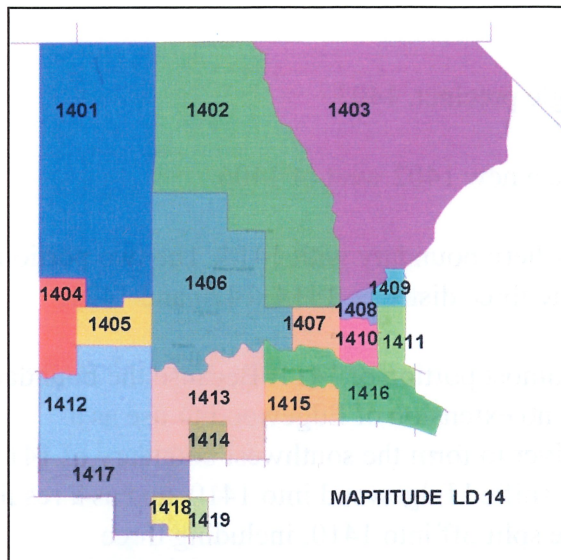
Precinct 1406 was split down Linder Road to create a new 1402 west of 1406.

Precinct 1413 was split into two parts along the northern boundary with 1414. The two portions south of that line were combined with 1414 to create three districts, 1414, 1420 and 1421.

Additionally, new homes were put into the southernmost portion of 1411. Because the boundary when drawn went through riverbed land, there was no extension of Edgewood to use as a boundary. A north south line was extended to the river to form the southwest boundary of 1411. In the last two years, as subdivision was put in that shifted Edgewood into 1410, and as a result, the eight westernmost homes in this subdivision are split off into 1410, including three residential lots split down the middle. Even though census blocks do not correct this change yet, it seems reasonable to put all homes in that subdivision into 1411.

The maps follow on the next page.

The LD 14 precincts as drawn in Maptitude and by Ada County are:



In 1411, the Renovere subdivision was built in 2019 and 2020. Because the boundary was a due north south line from Hwy 44 to the river, but the subdivision crossed that line slightly, the eight homes on the western edge were assigned to 1410. There are three homes on the east side of Don Vincent that are literally cut in half by the precinct boundary, and only the southeasternmost home of those six was assigned to 1411. The other five, as well as the first three on the south side of Lone Shore Ln, were placed in 1410.



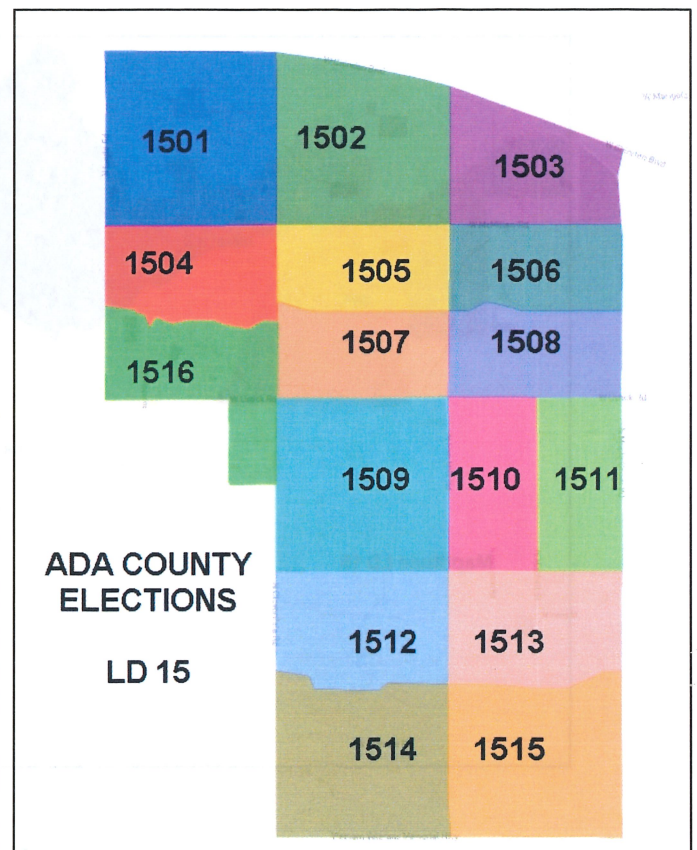
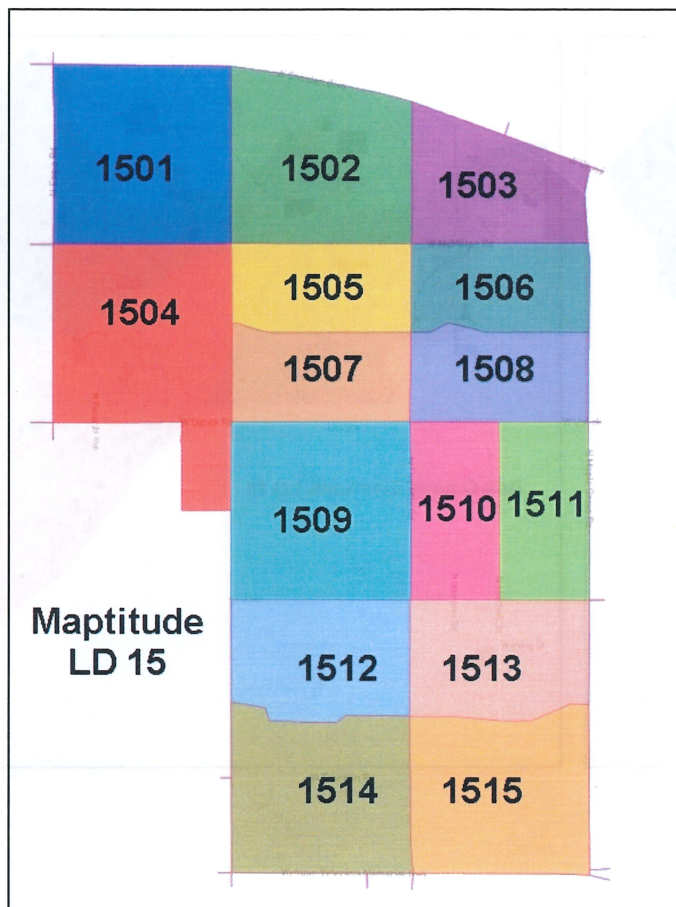
It is my understanding that these situations are to be avoided, but I am uncertain how the Commission would accommodate this issue since even the census block fails to adjust for this development.

Additional guidance to the public on how to draw along street lines when the census block doesn't accommodate that would be appreciated.

Legislative District 15

In LD 15, the only difference is that precinct 1504 was split into two, with precinct 1504 retaining the northern half, and a new precinct 1516 being created in the southern half.

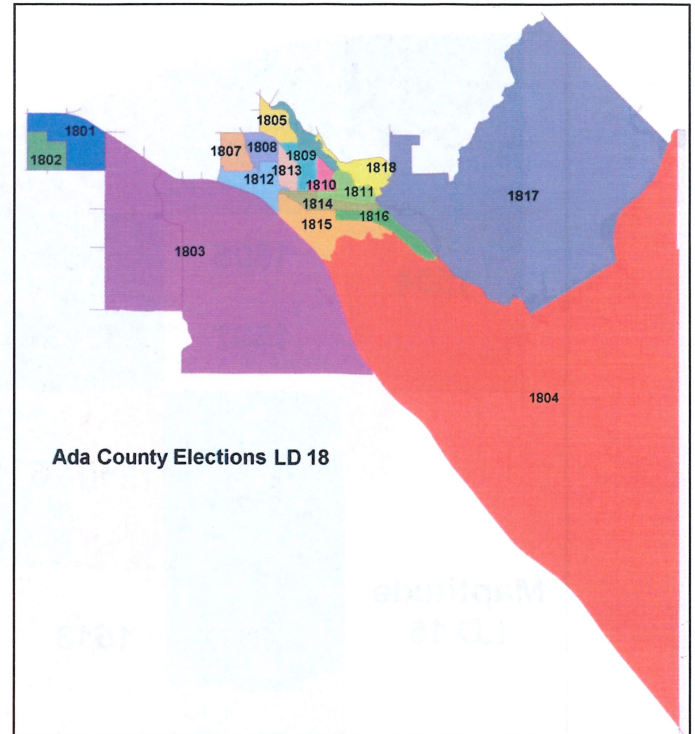
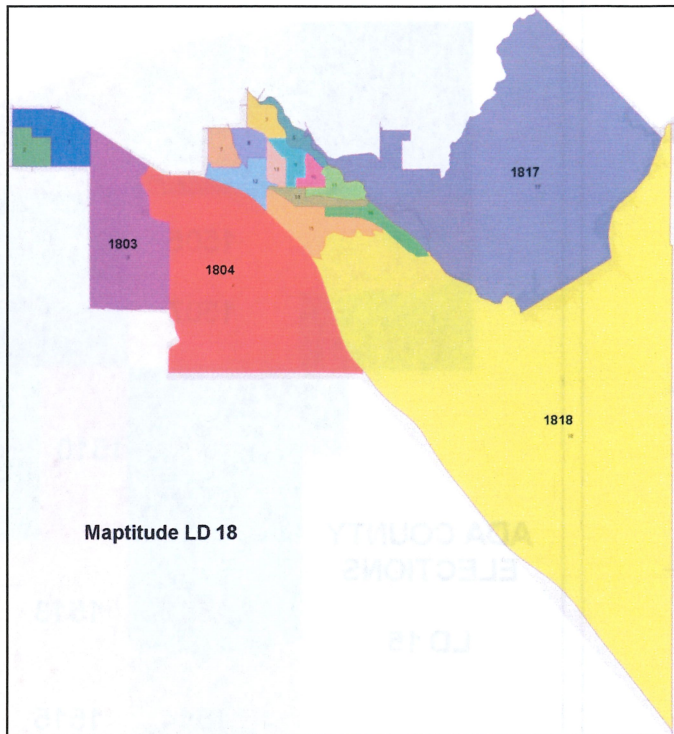
Precincts as drawn in Maptitude and by Ada County are:



Legislative District 18

In LD 18, precincts 1803 and 1804 were combined to form a new 1803. The old precinct 1818 on the east side of I-84 was renumbered 1818. Finally, the northwestern portion of 1817 was carved out to create a new 1818.

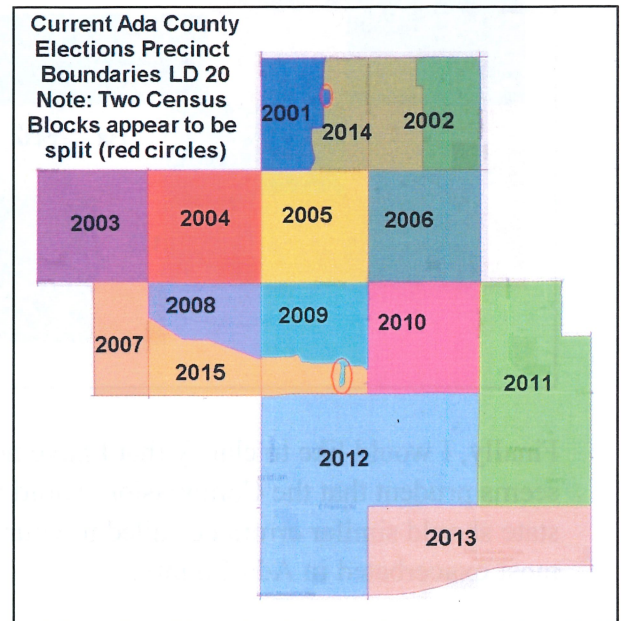
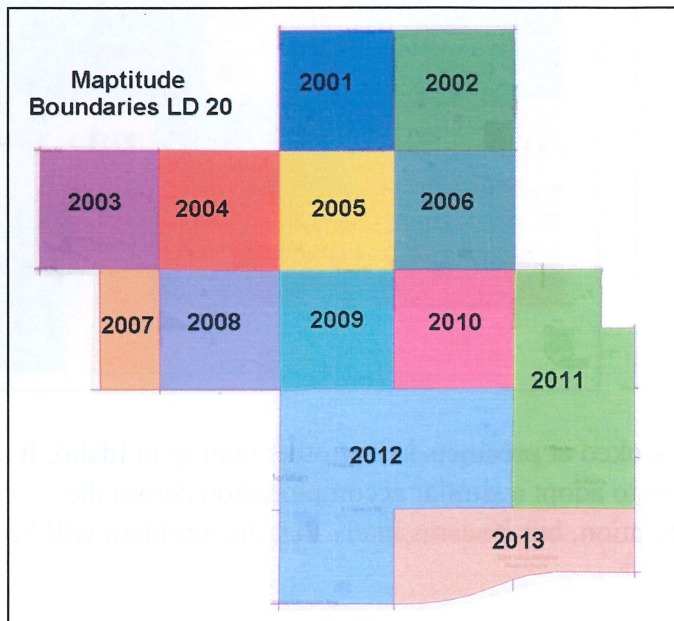
Precincts as drawn in Maptitude and by Ada County are:



Legislative District 20

In LD 20, there were two changes. First, Precinct 2001 and 2002 were both split to create a new 2014 in between them. Then Precinct 2008 and 2009 were split to create a new Precinct 2015 using the southern portion of the two old precincts. In each of these, there appears to be a discrepancy between the precinct lines as shown on the Ada County map and the lines created by selecting census blocks. The areas that are affected by these discrepancies are circled on the Ada County map below.

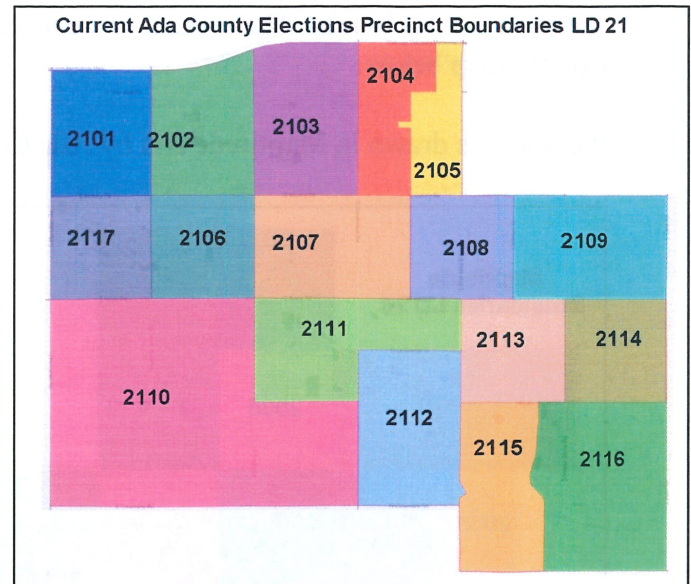
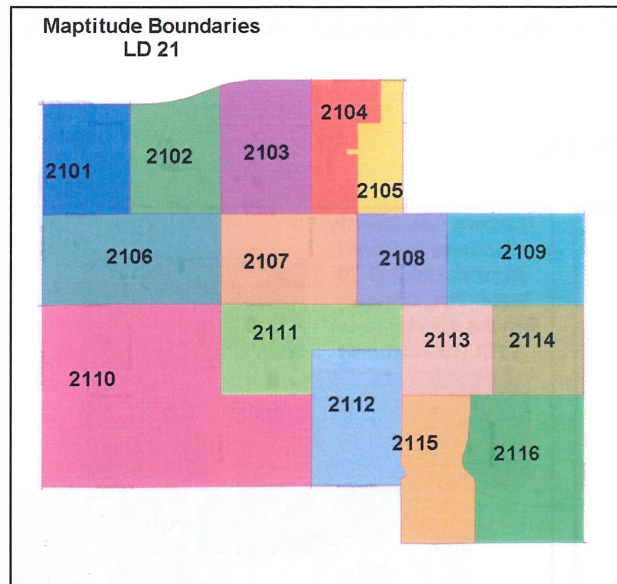
Precincts as drawn in Maptitude and by Ada County are:



Legislative District 21

In LD 21, Precinct 2106 was split in half to create a new Precinct 2117.

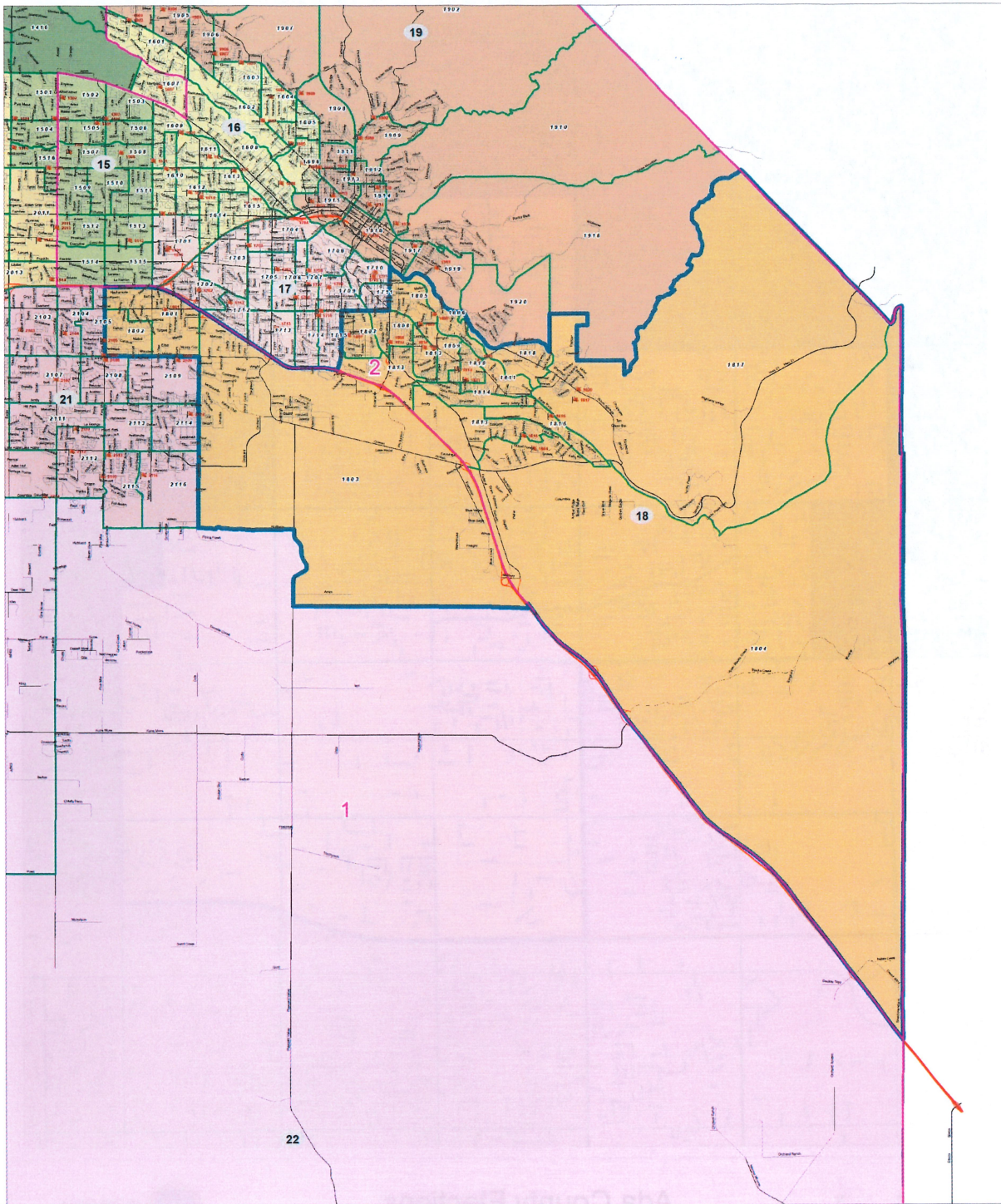
Precincts as drawn in Maptitude and by Ada County are:



Finally, I would like to clarify that I have not looked at precincts in any other county in Idaho. It seems prudent that the Commission would vote to adopt a similar accommodation across the state should similar errors be called to your attention, but it seems likely that this problem will be most exacerbated in Ada County.

The Commission staff has my phone and email contact information should you or staff have any additional clarifying questions.

The following pages contain the official Ada County Elections Office Legislative District maps.



- Polling Place
- Precincts
- Legislative Districts
- Congressional Districts

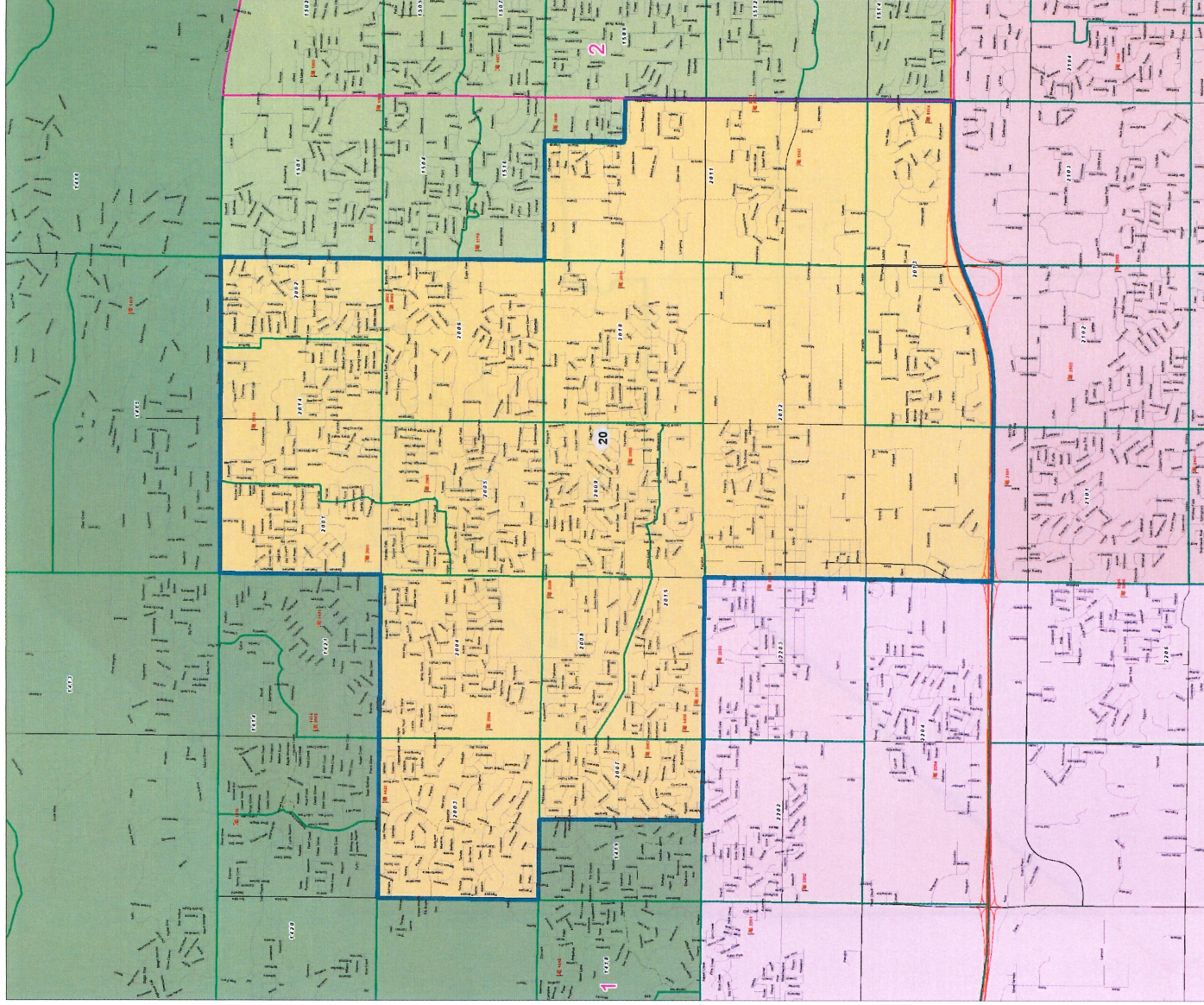


Ada County Elections

Legislative District 18



Ada County Elections
400 N. Benjamin Ln #100
Boise, ID 83704

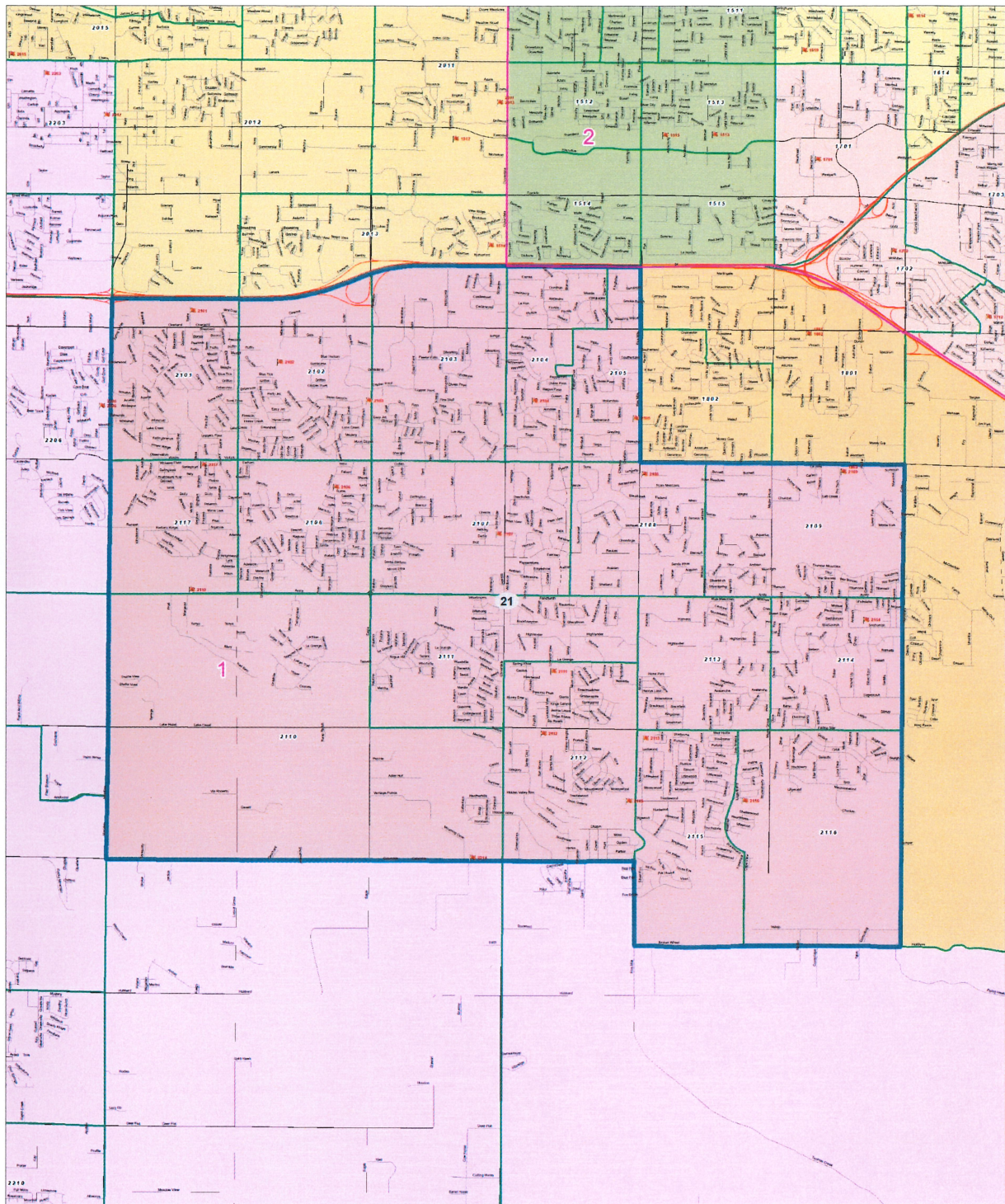


Ada County Elections

Legislative District 20



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- Polling Place
- Precincts
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Ada County Elections

Legislative District 21



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